Supreme Court, U. S.
FILED
DEC 1 1977
MICHAEL RODAK, JR., CLERK

IN THE

# Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1977

NO. 77-790

WARREN TEAL,
*Appellant,*

v.

STATE OF GEORGIA,
*Appellee.*

ON APPEAL
FROM THE
GEORGIA COURT OF APPEALS

## JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT

Of Counsel:
MICHAEL CLUTTER, Esq.
1409 Peachtree St., N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

ROBERT EUGENE SMITH, Esq.
1409 Peachtree St., N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
*Attorney for Appellant.*

The Paul M. Harrod Company, Baltimore, Maryland 21234

# INDEX

## TABLE OF CONTENTS


Page

Jurisdictional Statement . . . . . 1

Opinion Below . . . . . 2

Jurisdiction . . . . . 2

Questions Presented . . . . . 3

Constitutional and Statutory Provisions Involved . . . . . 4

Statement . . . . . 4

How the Federal Questions Were Raised . . . . . 5

The Questions are Substantial –

I. There is no rational basis upon which a state may totally prohibit and impose criminal penalties for the dissemination of any device designed or marketed as useful primarily for the stimulation of human genitals . . . . . 8

II. A standard of *scienter* which authorizes obscenity convictions on mere "constructive" knowledge impermissibly chills the dissemination of expression protected under the First and Fourteen Amendments to the United States Constitution . . . . . 14

III. Appellant's constitutional rights against unreasonable searches and seizures were violated by the introduction into evidence of allegedly obscene items seized by law enforcement officers without a warrant . . . . . 16

Page

IV. The materials charged against Appellant are not obscene as a matter of law and said materials constitute protected expression under the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution . . . . . 18

Conclusion . . . . . 21

Appendix A . . . . . 1
Appendix B . . . . . 2
Appendix C . . . . . 4
Appendix D . . . . . 5
Appendix E . . . . . 6
Appendix F . . . . . 7
Appendix G . . . . . 7



## TABLE OF CASES

*Cases*

Page

Ballew v. Georgia, No. 76-761 . . . . . 14
Bates v. Little Rock, 361 U.S. 516, 524 . . . . . 12
Connally v. General Construction Co.,
269 U.S. 385, 391 (1965) . . . . . 10
Dean Milk v. Madison, 340 U.S. 349 (1951) . . . . . 13
Dyke v. State, 232 Ga. 817 . . . . . 13
Frank v. Maryland, 359 U.S. 360 (1959) . . . . . 3
Griswold v. Connecticut, 381 U.S. 479 (1965) . . . . . 12
Hamling v. United States, 418 U.S. 87 (1974) . . . . . 6,15
Jacobellis v. Ohio, 378 U.S. 184 (1964) . . . . . 19
Jenkins v. Georgia, 418 U.S. 153 (1974) . . . . . 19
Lee Art Theatre v. Virginia,
392 U.S. 636 (1968) . . . . . 17
Manual Enterprises, Inc. v. Day,
370 U.S. 478 (1962) . . . . . 19
McLaughlin v. Florida, 379 U.S. 184, 196 . . . . . 12
Meyer v. Nebraska, 262 U.S. 390 (1923) . . . . . 11
Miller v. California, 413 U.S. 15 (1973) . . . . . 5
NAACP v. Button, 371 U.S. 415, 433 (1963) . . . . . 10
Pierce v. Society of Sisters,
268 U.S. 518 (1925) . . . . . 11
Roaden v. Kentucky, 413 U.S. 496 (1973) . . . . . 17
Shelton v. Tucker, 364 U.S. 479 (1960) . . . . . 12
Sewell v. Georgia, No. 76-1738 . . . . . 7
Sewell v. Georgia, 238 Ga. 495, 233 SE2d 187 (1977) . 2,7

IN THE

# Supreme Court of the United States

---

OCTOBER TERM, 1977

---

NO.

---

WARREN TEAL,
*Appellant,*

v.

STATE OF GEORGIA,
*Appellee.*

---

ON APPEAL
FROM THE
GEORGIA COURT OF APPEALS

---

## JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT

---

Appellant appeals from the judgment of the Georgia Court of Appeals entered July 13, 1977 affirming a judgment of conviction entered against Appellant in the Criminal Court of Fulton County, Georgia. Appellant submits this Jurisdictional Statement to show that the

Supreme Court of the United States has jurisdiction of this appeal and that substantial questions are presented.

## OPINION BELOW

The opinion of the Georgia Court of Appeals is not yet reported. A copy thereof is set forth in Appendix A hereto. It relies almost entirely on the decision of the Georgia Supreme Court in *Sewell v. State*, 238 Ga. 495, 233 S.E. 2d 187 (1977). A copy of that decision is set forth in Appendix B hereto.

## JURISDICTION

The judgment of the Georgia Court of Appeals was entered on July 13, 1977. An application for rehearing was timely filed and it was denied on July 22, 1977. A copy of said denial is set forth in Appendix C hereto. The Georgia Supreme Court thereafter denied a Petition for Writ of Certiorari on September 8, 1977. A copy of said denial is set forth in Appendix D hereto. A Notice of Appeal was filed in the Georgia Court of Appeals on September 15, 1977. A copy of said Notice is set forth in Appendix E hereto.

Appellant challenges the validity of the state statute under which he was convicted, Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101(c), on the ground of its being repugnant to the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and the decision of the Georgia Court of Appeals is in favor of its validity. Additionally, Appellant attacks the validity of the state statute under which the jury was instructed on *scienter*, Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101(a), on the ground of its being repugnant to the First and



Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, and the decision of the Georgia Court of Appeals is in favor of its validity.

The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court to review the judgment is conferred by Title 28, United States Code, Section 1257(2). The decision of this Court in *Frank v. Maryland*, 359 U.S. 360 (1959) sustains the jurisdiction of this Court to review the judgment of the Georgia Court of Appeals by way of appeal in this case.

## QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether there is any rational basis upon which a state may totally prohibit and impose criminal penalties for the dissemination of devices designed or marketed as useful primarily for the stimulation of human genital organs.

2. Whether a state statute which defines *scienter* in a manner which authorizes obscenity convictions on mere "constructive" knowledge impermissibly chills the dissemination of materials protected under the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

3. Whether a warrantless mass seizure of allegedly obscene material may be sustained under the plain view doctrine.

4. Whether the press materials charged against Appellant are not obscene as a matter of law, constituting expression protected under the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY PROVISIONS INVOLVED

The full text of Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101 is set forth in Appendix F hereto. Also set forth in Appendix F are those provisions of the First, Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution which Appellant claims to be dispositive of the validity of said statute as well as the other question presented herein.

## STATEMENT

On August 29, 1975, two Atlanta area law enforcement officers proceeded to the Ponce de Leon Book Store where one of the officers entered the store and purchased a magazine entitled "Piecemeal" from the Appellant. After the purchase, they identified themselves as law enforcement officers, and placed Appellant under arrest for distributing obscene material.

Immediately following the arrest of Appellant, the officers seized all of the alleged sexual devices that were in view in the store. One of the officers testified that this warrantless mass seizure was conducted pursuant to instructions he had received from his superiors to seize "anything intended primarily for sexual gratification." (Tr. 21-22) Appellant was charged in a multiple count accusation with distributing obscene material in violation of Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101. The charge was predicated upon his sale of the magazine, as well as his possession of the other alleged sexual devices.

The magazine was alleged to be obscene under subsection (b) of the statute, a portion which Appellant



does not challenge. That sub-section defines obscenity in terms substantially similar to those enunciated by this Court as a constitutional standard in *Miller v. California*, 413 U.S. 15 (1973). The magazine was thus judged by the three part *Miller* test defining obscene material as that material which appeals to a prurient interest in sex, describes specifically defined sexual conduct in a patently offensive way, and lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value. *Id.* Again, this portion of the statute is not challenged by Appellant.

The alleged sexual devices were alleged to be obscene under sub-section (c) of the Georgia Obscenity Code which provides as follows:

> "Any device designed or marketed as useful primarily for the stimulation of human genital organs is obscene material under this section."

Under this sub-section, which Appellant does challenge, items may be obscene (and thus illegal) even though they do not meet the obscenity test set forth in *Miller, supra.* Under this sub-section, any device intended for the stimulation of human genitals is obscene and the sale of such items is thus illegal.

Appellant was tried on the accusation before a court and jury and found guilty. The Court sentenced him to a term of imprisonment for one year and a $5,000.00 fine. A Motion For New Trial was thereafter filed and overruled and Appellant appealed the conviction to the Supreme Court of Georgia. That Court transferred the case to the Georgia Court of Appeals which affirmed the conviction and sentence in all respects in a judgment and opinion for which review is sought here.

## HOW THE FEDERAL QUESTIONS WERE RAISED

Prior to the trial herein, Appellant filed a motion to dismiss the accusation insofar as it related to offenses under Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101(c). The motion to dismiss was predicated upon the argument that the section in question (relating to sexual devices) was violative of the United States Constitution on grounds of vagueness, overbreadth, and invasions of the rights of due process and privacy. Appellant also filed, prior to trial, a motion to suppress those items that had been taken by law enforcement officers in the warrantless mass seizure of alleged sexual devices. The seizure was alleged to be in violation of Appellants rights under the First, Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

Both motions were denied and Appellant then went on trial before a court and jury. During the course of the trial Appellant objected to the introduction of the alleged sexual devices for all of the grounds, including the federal constitutional grounds, previously asserted in the motion to dismiss and in the motion to suppress. The objections were overruled.

At the conclusion of the trial, the jury was instructed and said instructions contained the definition of *scienter* which Appellant challenges here. The instructions followed the language of Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101(a) in telling the jury that the *scienter* requirement does not necessitate actual knowledge of the contents but may be satisfied by a showing of "constructive" knowledge thereof. Appellant objected to this instruction as failing to meet the Constitutional minimum standards for *scienter* set forth by this Court in *Hamling v. United States*, 418 U.S. 87 (1974).



Following his conviction, Appellant filed an Amended Motion For New Trial which presented once again to the trial court the federal questions presented herein. Said Amended Motion For New Trial, asserted that the sexual device statute, Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101(c) was violative of the First, Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution. Said motion further challenged the warrantless mass seizure of such devices as violative of the First Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution. It further contended that the materials charged against Appellant were not obscene as a matter of law and thus constituted protected expression under the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution. Finally, said motion argued that the jury instructions on constructive knowledge failed to meet the Constitutional minimum standards of *scienter* set forth by this Court. The Amended Motion For New Trial was overruled by the Criminal Court of Fulton County without opinion on November 16, 1976.

Appellant thereafter appealed to the Supreme Court of Georgia, raising all of the federal questions presented here. That court transferred the case to the Georgia Court of Appeals, noting that the constitutional grounds had already been passed on in an earlier decision, *Sewell v. State*, 238 Ga. 495, 233 S.E. 2d 187 (1977). A copy of the order transferring the case to the Georgia Court of Appeals is set forth in Appendix G hereto. The *Sewell* case is currently before this Court in *Sewell v. Georgia*, No. 76-1738, Jurisdictional Statement filed June 7, 1977. A copy of the opinion of the Georgia Supreme Court in that case is set forth in Appendix B hereto. The Georgia Court of Appeals affirmed the conviction in an opinion which relied upon the opinion of the Georgia Supreme Court in *Sewell v. State*,

*supra.* The Georgia Supreme Court thereafter denied a petition for writ of certiorari and the case is thus properly before this Court on appeal.

## THE QUESTIONS ARE SUBSTANTIAL

### I.

THERE IS NO RATIONAL BASIS UPON WHICH A STATE MAY TOTALLY PROHIBIT AND IMPOSE CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF ANY DEVICE DESIGNED OR MARKETED AS USEFUL PRIMARILY FOR THE STIMULATION OF HUMAN GENITALS.

The state does not contend that the bulk of the material charged against Appellant, the alleged sexual devices, are obscene under Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101 (b) which sets forth the standard three part *Miller* obscenity test. Rather, they are alleged to violate Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101 (c) which provides:

> "Additionally, any device designed or marketed as useful primarily for the stimulation of human genital organs is obscene material under this section."

The seriousness of this question is first demonstrated by the fact that the above definition contains none of the Constitutional limitations upon obscenity set forth by this court in *Miller v. California, supra.* Material may be found obscene under this statute even though it does not meet any of the three tests for obscenity set forth by this Court as Constitutionally necessary in the *Miller* decision. The



seriousness of the question here presented is further demonstrated by the fact that the total prohibition of such devices bears no reasonable relationship to any conceivable public interest and has no rational basis.

In *Miller,* the Supreme Court noted that "state statutes designed to regulate obscene material must be carefully limited." 413 U.S. 15, at 23-24. As a result of the need for careful limitation, Supreme Court confined the permissible scope of any state obscenity statute to the regulation of materials which "depict or describe sexual conduct." 413 U.S. 15, at 24. It is clear that, whatever their intended use, the items do not depict sexual conduct.

Further, the Court in *Miller* went on to hold that any state obscenity offense must be limited to those materials which meet a three part test:

> "A state offense must also be limited to works which, taken as a whole, appeal to the prurient interest in sex, which portrays sexual conduct in a patently offensive way, and which, taken as a whole, do not have serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value." 413 U.S. 15, at 24.

The statute in question here sets forth an obscenity offense which is not limited to the category which the Supreme Court found acceptable in *Miller.* It is thus clearly unconstitutional for authorizing the suppression of material as "obscene" even though such material may not appeal to a prurient interest in sex, may not portray sexual conduct in any way, and may possess serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.

Further, the statute is unconstitutionally vague in its definition of prohibited devices. A novelty item may be marketed or intended as an inducement to humor, but the vendors of such items can only guess as to what is meant by the phrase "intended or marketed primarily for the stimulation of human genital organs." It is clear that in the First Amendment area "government may regulate . . . only with narrow specificity." *NAACP v. Button*, 371 U.S. 415, 433 (1963). In so regulating, the State must avoid the use of language which is so vague that "men of common intelligence must necessarily guess as to its meaning." *Connally v. General Construction Co.*, 269 U.S. 385, 391 (1926).

Appellant does not contend that a properly instructed jury could not find the items obscene if they were judged under the *Miller* obscenity standards. Appellant concedes that similar devices have been held obscene under the three part *Miller* test in other cases. Appellant objects that the devices in this case were judged not by that constitutionally acceptable three part standard but rather by a standard of obscenity which this Court has never approved.

In addition to falling outside any constitutionally approved standard of obscenity, the statute carries the state into areas where it has no conceivable public interest. In this regard it is important to note that the statute is not limited to the commercial utilization of sexual devices, rather, it prohibits any sale of any such device to any person. Individuals are thus prohibited from purchasing such items even for their own personal private use on their own bodies in the privacy of their own homes. The state has no possible interest in prohibiting an adult from masturbating in the privacy of his or her home. Likewise, there can be



no rational basis for prohibiting the sale of items which such individuals might utilize in so masturbating.

This court has often invalidated legislation because it lacked a reasonable relationship to any public interest. In *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 518 (1925), the court held an Oregon mandatory public school attendance statute invalid, noting:

> "As often heretofore pointed out, rights guaranteed by the Constitution may not be abridged by legislation which has no reasonable relation to some purpose within the competency of the state." 268 U.S., at 636.

In *Meyer v. Nebraska*, 262 U.S. 390 (1923) the court overturned a state statute prohibiting the study of the German language, stating:

> "The problem for our determination is whether the statute as construed and applied unreasonably infringes a liberty, guaranteed . . . by the Fourteenth Amendment . . . the established doctrine is that this liberty may not be interfered with under the guise of protecting the public interest, by legislative action which is arbitrary or without reasonable relation to some purpose within the competency of the state to effect." 262 U.S., at 399-400.

Even assuming, arguendo, that the state has some interest in regulating certain uses to which sexual devices might be put, the statute here in question is overbroad in

its total prohibition of such devices. In *Shelton v. Tucker*, 364 U.S. 479 (1960) this court stated in this regard:

> "In a series of decisions, this court has held that, even though the government purpose be legitimate and substantial, that purpose cannot be pursued by means that broadly stifle fundamental personal liberties when the end can be more narrowly reserved." 364 U.S., at 488.

In his concurring opinion in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479 (1965), Mr. Justice Goldberg reiterated the importance of using the least restrictive alternative when government regulation is in question:

> "In a long series of cases this court has held that where fundamental personal liberties are involved, they may not be abridged by the state simply on a showing that a regulatory scheme has some rational relationship to the effectuation of a proper state purpose. 'Where there is a significant encroachment upon personal liberty, the state may prevail only upon showing a subordinating interest which is compelling.' *Bates v. Little Rock*, 361 U.S. 516, 524. The law must be shown 'necessary and not merely rationally related to the accomplishment of a permissible state policy.' *McLaughlin v. Florida*, 379 U.S. 184, 196." 381 U.S., at 497.

This case is similar to that presented in *Griswold, supra*, where this court struck down a statute making any use of contraceptives a criminal offense. In finding that law unconstitutional, the court noted that it impinged upon a protected right to marital privacy. The prohibition in this case impinges upon the same fundamental right. The statute



is not limited to the prohibition of the sale of such devices to minors nor to the prohibition of the commercial use of such devices. It merely sweeps all devices within the definition of obscenity and therefore criminalizes their distribution to anyone, including married couples.

Although this court may not specify how a legislature is to meet legitimate social ends, it may prohibit the utilization of means that are unduly restrictive of individual freedom. *Dean Milk v. Madison*, 340 U.S. 349 (1951).

All of the above argument proceeds on the premise that the state has some legitimate interest in regulating the uses to which sexual devices might be put. Appellant does not concede that the state has any such interest. But, even if it does, no possible rational basis can be imagined for total prohibition of such devices. No conceivable public interest can be served by prohibiting an individual from purchasing an item to further his own masturbation or to utilize in sexual activities with his spouse.

In answer to this argument, the Supreme Court of Georgia merely noted that the Georgia obscenity statute had previously withstood constitutional attacks based upon grounds of vagueness and overbreadth. The court held that subsequent amendments made no substantive change and the court thus relied upon its prior decision in *Dyke v. State*, 232 Ga. 817, 209 S.E.2d 166 (1974).

The *Dyke* decision, however, does not address any of the issues presented here. That case merely involved a film alleged to be obscene under the common three part obscenity standard which Appellant does not challenge. It did not involve any alleged sexual devices and that portion

of the statute prohibiting sexual devices, Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101 (c), had not even been passed as part of the law when *Dyke* was decided. The decision in *Dyke* thus offers no support for the court's decision below since the law Appellant challenges was not even passed at the time *Dyke* was decided.

## II.

## A STANDARD OF SCIENTER WHICH AUTHORIZES OBSCENITY CONVICTIONS ON MERE "CONSTRUCTIVE" KNOWLEDGE IMPERMISSIBLY CHILLS THE DISSEMINATION OF EXPRESSION PROTECTED UNDER THE FIRST AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

In its charge to the jury, the trial court gave the following instruction on the issue of *scienter:*

> "[T]he word 'knowing' as used herein shall be deemed to be the actual knowledge or constructive knowledge of the obscene contents of the subject matter. A person has constructive knowledge of the obscene contents if he has the knowledge of facts which would put a reasonable and prudent person on notice as to the suspect nature of the material." (Tr. C-1,2.)

This instruction is in accord with the terms of Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101 (a) which Appellant challenges. The seriousness of this question is well demonstrated by the fact that certiorari has been granted on this precise issue in *Ballew v. Georgia,* No. 76-761, question number 2, certiorari granted January 25, 1977. Oral argument was heard in *Ballew* on November 1, 1977.



The most recent pronouncement of this Court on the requirements of *scienter* is found in *Hamling v. United States,* 418 U.S. 87 (1974). There, this Court stated:

> "We think the 'knowingly' language of 18 U.S.C. §1461 and the instructions given by the district court in this case satisfy the constitutional requirements of *scienter.* It is constitutionally sufficient that the prosecution show that the defendant *had* knowledge of the contents of material he distributes, and that he knew the character and nature of the materials." 418 U.S., at 123 (emphasis added).

Consistent with the above statement from *Hamling,* Appellant contends that the prosecution must show that he "had" knowledge rather than that he "should have had" knowledge of the content, character and nature of the materials with which he was charged. The arguments in support of this position are amply set forth in the Brief of Petitioner in the *Ballew* case and Appellant in this case relies thereon. It is here submitted that the granting of certiorari on this issue in *Ballew* amply demonstrates the substantiality of the question.

## III.

## APPELLANT'S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS AGAINST UNREASONABLE SEARCHES AND SEIZURES WERE VIOLATED BY THE INTRODUCTION INTO EVIDENCE OF ALLEGEDLY OBSCENE ITEMS SEIZED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WITHOUT A WARRANT.

The substance of the testimony at a trial was that a law enforcement officer purchased one magazine from Appellant and thereafter arrested Appellant and confiscated all the novelty items present. No warrant was obtained to seize the allegedly obscene items nor was any attempt made to secure one. As the officer testified, they were instructed to seize, without a warrant, everything in view which was primarily intended for sexual stimulation.

The officers did not submit the question to a neutral magistrate for a determination of whether the items were obscene under Ga. Code §26-2101 (c). There was no indication that the warrant could not be obtained or that it would be impractical to seek one. The officer testified that the devices were exhibited on shelves within the store and there is no indication that they would have been removed during the time it would take him to view the materials, describe his viewing to a neutral magistrate, and obtain a warrant. Indeed, the officer testified that Appellant was the only individual working in the store at the time of his arrest, and there was thus no one present to remove the goods had they been left in the store following his arrest. It is thus clear that the officers had ample opportunity to



secure a warrant for the seizure of the items both before and after the arrest of the Appellant.

The principles applicable to the warrantless seizure of allegedly obscene material were set forth by United States Supreme Court in *Roaden v. Kentucky*, 413 U.S. 496 (1973). The Court there held that the warrantless seizure of an allegedly obscene film was unconstitutional under the First, Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments. The Court noted that the determination of obscenity must be made by a neutral and detached magistrate rather than a zealous law enforcement officer vigorously pursuing his role in adversary process of controlling crime. The Court thus noted:

> "The seizure proceeded solely on the police officer's conclusions that the film was obscene; there was no warrant. Nothing prior to seizure afforded a magistrate an opportunity to 'focus searchingly on the question of obscenity.'" 413 U.S. 496, at 506.

The Court thought the issue was controlled by its prior decision in *Lee Art Theatre v. Virginia*, 392 U.S. 636 (1968). *Lee Art Theatre* held that the warrant for the seizure of allegedly obscene material may not be issued on the mere conclusory allegations of a police officer. In light of that holding, it is even more clear that an officer may not be allowed to make a seizure of such material with no warrant at all.

> "If, as Marcus and Lee Art Theatre held, a warrant for seizing allegedly obscene material may not issue on the mere conclusory allegations of an officer, a *fortiori*, the officer may not make such a seizure with no warrant at all." 413 U.S. 496 at 506.

The same conclusion must be reached in this case, and the warrantless mass seizure of all the novelty items as "obscene" must be held unconstitutional. The Georgia Supreme Court, in the *Sewell* case relied upon by the Court of Appeals herein, held that the mass seizure was justified under the "plain view" doctrine in that the items were in plain view. The issue is not whether they were in view, however, but whether a police officer or a magistrate should make the determination of obscenity before any item is seized as obscene. The items in *Roaden, supra,* and in *Lee Art Theatre, supra,* were also in plain view, but this did not serve to sustain their warrantless seizure.

On the basis of the *Lee Art* and *Roaden* decisions alone, Appellant submits that the decision below is so clearly erroneous as to justify summary reversal. At the very least, however, plenary review is called for before such a decision can be affirmed.

## IV.

THE MATERIALS CHARGED AGAINST APPELLANT ARE NOT OBSCENE AS A MATTER OF LAW AND SAID MATERIALS CONSTITUTE PROTECTED EXPRESSION UNDER THE FIRST AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

The Court is respectfully requested to independently review the alleged obscenity of the magazine "Piecemeal". The doctrine necessitating an independent appellate review of the alleged obscenity of materials found obscene at the



trial level had its origins in this Court's decision in *Manual Enterprises, Inc. v. Day,* 370 U.S. 478 (1962). It was later expounded upon in *Jacobellis v. Ohio,* 378 U.S. 184 (1964).

The continuing validity of the *Jacobellis* doctrine and of the appellate duty it imposes was affirmed here recently in the case of *Jenkins v. Georgia,* 418 U.S. 153 (1974). That case involved a conviction under a state obscenity statute founded upon the exhibition of the film "Carnal Knowledge." The Court reversed the conviction based upon its own viewing of the film, and the finding that the film could not, as a matter of constitutional law, be held obscene.

This Court is respectfully called upon to perform the judicial duty above delineated and thus to determine the obscenity *vel non* of the magazine "Piecemeal." An item of similar explicitness was before this Court in *Jenkins v. Georgia, supra.* In reversing an obscenity conviction based upon the film "Carnal Knowledge" the Court there noted that the film did contain scenes of nudity. The Court nonetheless reversed the conviction, noting:

> "There are occasional scenes of nudity, but nudity alone is not enough to make material legally obscene under the Miller standards." 418 U.S. 153, 161.

The material presently before this Court is similar to that involved in the *Jenkins* decision. Whether or not the Court might find this material to be "soft core" pornography, it is clearly not "hard core" pornography. The Court in *Jenkins* noted that material must be "hard core" in order to support a constitutional conviction. The Court quoted from *Miller* to the effect that:

> "No one [may be constitutionally prosecuted] for the sale or exposure of obscene materials unless these materials depict or describe patently offensive *'hard core'* sexual conduct." 418 U.S. 153, at 160 quoting 413 U.S. 1, at 25.

The Court thus went on to reverse the conviction since the film "Carnal Knowledge" was simply not a "public portrayal of *hard core* sexual conduct." 418 U.S. 153, at 161.

The book "Hot and Sultry" is simply not hard core sexual material. When judged by the standards set forth in *Miller* and reaffirmed in *Jenkins* the conclusion is inescapable that the book constitutes protected speech under the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.

In light of this Court's pronouncement that no one may be constitutionally prosecuted in this area except for the sale of "materials which depict or describe patently offensive 'hard core' sexual conduct," 418 U.S., at 153, the decision below is so clearly erroneous as to justify summary reversal. At the very least, however, plenary review is required before Appellant's conviction may be affirmed.



## CONCLUSION

The questions submitted herein are so substantial as to require plenary review. Especially with respect to Question Number I, the substantiallity is demonstrated by the fact that, since Appellant's conviction, numerous other individuals have been prosecuted and convicted for the sale of devices designed for sexual stimulation. If the statute is unconstitutional as Appellant contends, the importance of such a determination will extend to numerous other cases. The Court is thus respectfully requested to note probable jurisdiction and set the case for briefing and oral argument.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT EUGENE SMITH, Esq.
1409 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
(404) 892–8890
*Counsel to Appellant*

*Of Counsel:*

MICHAEL CLUTTER, Esq.
1409 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
(404) 892–8890

## APPENDIX A

July 13, 1977
W-119

54157. TEAL (WARREN) v. THE STATE

Webb, Judge.

The issues presented in this appeal from a conviction for the violation of Code Ann. §26-2101 are precisely those presented on an almost identical set of facts in *Sewell v. State*, 238 Ga. 495 (233 SE2d 187) (1977). The enumerations of error are verbatim to enumerations set forth by the same attorney.

Here Teal was arrested after selling at the Ponco de Leon Adult Bookstore's magazine entitled "Piece Meal," at which time and place a number of artifical sexual devices on display were seized.

We have viewed the exhibits sent to this court, and reviewed the transcript. The illustrations in the magazine could be described as suppurating sores, and the sexual devices are within the definition of §26-2101 (c). There is no merit in any of the appellant's contentions.

*Judgment affirmed. Deen, P. J., and Marshall, J., concur.*

## APPENDIX B

315

In the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Decided: February 23, 1977

31875. SEWELL v. THE STATE

NICHOLS, Chief Justice.

Appellant is the operator of an adult book store located in Fulton County. He was arrested after selling a magazine called *Hot and Sultry* and an artificial vagina to a law enforcement officer. At the time of his arrest several other artificial sexual devices on display were seized. He was tried and convicted of violating Code Ann. §26-2101 (c), which provides: "Additionally, any device designed or marketed as useful primarily for the stimulation of human genital organs is obscene material under this section."

1. The first enumeration of error contends the above-quoted statute is unconstitutional for vagueness and overbreadth. Georgia's obscenity statute has previously withstood the same attacks made here. The 1975 amendment to this section, Ga. L. 1975, p. 498, simply defined in more definite terms previously referred to as "material", and made no substantive change so as to require a new determination as to the constitutional issues sought to be raised. *Dyke v. State*, 232 Ga. 817 (I) (209 SE2d 166) (1974) and citations. There is no merit in this enumeration of error.

2. The second enumeration of error contends it was error to overrule the motion to suppress because the evidence was seized without a warrant. The arresting officer



testified that all the "material" confiscated was displayed in a glass case in plain view for everyone who walked in to see. The seizure here comes within the plain view doctrine as held in *State v. Swift*, 232 Ga. 535 (2) (207 SE2d 459) (1974), quoting from *Brisendine v. The State*, 130 Ga. App. 249 (1) (203 SE2d 308) (1973). The trial court did not err in overruling the motion to suppress.

3. The third and fourth enumerations of error contend the evidence did not support the verdict. We have reviewed the transcript and viewed the exhibits transmitted to this court and find no merit in these enumerations of error.

4. The fifth enumeration of error complains of the charge on constructive knowledge as a violation of constitutional requirements of scienter as set forth in *Hamling v. United States*, 418 U.S. 87 (94 SC 2887, 41 LE2d 590) (1973). In *Hamling*, supra at p. 123, the court held: "It is constitutionally sufficient that the prosecution show that a defendant had knowledge of the contents of the materials he distributed, and that he knew the character and nature of the materials. To require proof of a defendant's knowledge of the legal status of the materials would permit the defendant to avoid prosecution by simply claiming that he had not brushed up on the law. Such a formulation of the scienter requirement is required neither by the language of 18 U.S.C. §1461 nor by the Constitution."

The charge given here was in the exact language of the Code section and did not place a greater burden on appellant than "knowledge of the contents of the materials he distributed." There is no merit in this enumeration of error.

5. The sixth enumeration of error contends the materials are not obscene as a matter of law and are protected expressions under the First and Fourteenth Amendments. It has been held many times by both this

court and the United States Supreme Court that obscene material does not come within the protection of the First Amendment.

Devices such as those involved here do not require a separate adjudication to avoid prior restraint as required in cases of films, books, magazines and other printed material. If they come within the definition in the statute, they are obscene as a matter of law. There is no merit in this enumeration of error.

Judgment affirmed. All the Justices concur, except Gunter, Ingram and Hall, J. J., who concur in the judgment only.

---

## APPENDIX C

---

Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia

Atlanta, July 22, 1977

The Honorable Court of Appeals met pursuant to adjournment. The following order was passed:

54157. Warren Teal v. The State

Upon consideration of the motion for a rehearing filed in this case, it is ordered that it be hereby denied.

Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia
Clerk's Office, Atlanta,

I certify that the above is a true extract from the minutes of the Court of Appeals of Georgia.

Witness my signature and the seal of said court hereto affixed the day and year last above written.

/s/ Morgan Thomas,
*Clerk.*



## APPENDIX D

---

CLERK'S OFFICE, SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

Atlanta 30334, September 8, 1977

Dear Sir:

Case No. 32773, Teal v. State.

The Supreme Court today denied the writ of certiorari in this case.

Marshall, J., disqualified.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Joline B. Williams
*Clerk*

---

## APPENDIX E

---

**IN THE COURT OF APPEALS**
**FOR THE STATE OF GEORGIA**

WARREN TEAL,
*Appellant,*

v.

STATE OF GEORGIA,
*Appellee.*

Case No. 54157

**NOTICE OF APPEAL TO THE**
**SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

Notice is hereby given that WARREN TEAL, the Appellant above-named, hereby appeals to the Supreme Court of the United States from the July 13, 1977 order of the Georgia Court of Appeals affirming the judgment of conviction entered against Appellant herein. A Petition for Rehearing was denied by the Georgia Court of Appeals on July 22, 1977. The Georgia Supreme Court thereafter denied a Petition for Writ of Certiorari on September 8, 1977(*Teal v. State*, No. 32773).

This appeal is taken pursuant to the authorization of 28 U.S.C. §1257 (2).

/s/ ROBERT EUGENE SMITH
/s/ MICHAEL CLUTTER
1409 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
(404) 892-8890
*Counsel to Appellant*

---



## APPENDIX F

---

In the Supreme Court of Georgia

32159. TEAL v. THE STATE.

**ORDER**

The asserted constitutional grounds have been passed upon by this court. See *Sewell v. State*, Ga. (SE2d) (Case No. 31875, decided February 23, 1977). Therefore, this case must be transferred to the Court of Appeals.

*Transferred to the Court of Appeals. All the Justices concur.*

---

## APPENDIX G

---

**CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

1. The pertinent provisions of the First Amendment are:

> "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press . . ."

2. The pertinent provisions of the Fourth Amendment are:

> "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon

probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

3. The pertinent provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment are:

"No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

4. Georgia Criminal Code §26-2101, Acts of 1975, p. 498, provides as follows:

"(a) A person commits the offense of distributing obscene materials when he sells, lends, rents, leases, gives, advertises, publishes, exhibits or otherwise disseminates to any person any obscene material of any description, knowing the obscene nature thereof, or offers to do so, or possesses such material with the intent to do so, provided that the word "knowing," as used herein, shall be deemed to be either actual or constructive knowledge of the obscene contents of the subject matter, and a person has constructive knowledge of the obscene contents if he has knowledge of facts which would put a reasonable and prudent person on notice as to the suspect nature of the material. Provided, however, the character and reputation of the individual charged with an offense under this law, and if a commercial dissemination of obscene material is involved, the character and reputation of the business establishment involved may be placed in evidence by the defendant on the question of intent to



violate this law. Undeveloped photographs, molds, printing plates and the like shall be deemed obscene notwithstanding that processing or other acts may be required to make the obscenity patent or to disseminate it.

(b) Material is obscene if:

(1) to the average person, applying contemporary community standards, taken as a whole, it predominantly appeals to the prurient interest, that is a shameful or morbid interest in nudity, sex or excretion;

(2) the material taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value, and

(3) the material depicts or describes, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct specifically defined in subparagraphs (i) through (v) below:

(i) acts of sexual intercourse, heterosexual or homosexual, normal or perverted, actual or simulated;

(ii) acts of masturbation;

(iii) acts of involving excretory functions or lewd exhibition of the genitals;

(iv) acts of bestiality or the fondling of sex organs of animals;

(v) sexual acts of flagellation, torture or other violence indicating a sadomasochistic sexual relationship;

(c) Additionally any device designed or marketed as useful primarily for the stimulation of human genital organs is obscene material under this section.'

(d) Material, not otherwise obscene, may be obscene under this section if the distribution thereof, or the offer to do so, or the possession with the intent to do so is a commercial exploitation of erotica solely for the sake of their prurient appeal.

(e) It is an affirmative defense under this section that dissemination of the material was restricted to:

(1) a person associated with an institution of higher learning, either as a member of the faculty or a matriculated student, teaching or pursuing a course of study related to such material; or

(2) a person whose receipt of such material was authorized in writing by a licensed medical practitioner or psychiatrist.

A person convicted of distributing obscene material shall be punished as for a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature.

(Acts 1968, pp 1249, 1302; 1971, p. 344; 1975, p. 498.

---



## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have served two (2) copies of this Jurisdictional Statement upon Leonard Rhodes, Assistant Fulton County Solicitor, 53 Civil-Criminal Courts Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, and upon Arthur K. Bolton, Georgia Attorney General, 132 State Judicial, Atlanta, Georgia 30334, by depositing same in U. S. Mail this 5th day of December, 1977.

/s/ Robert E. Smith
/s/ Michael Clutter
1409 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
(404) 892-8890